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Community stands with Evan, against harassment

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

About 80 people showed their support for Evan Natale, who endured verbal homophobic harassment from a neighbour, by joining the Walk with Evan on Wednesday, July 22 in Harcourt.

Organized in a few days by his mother Debbie Natale as well as Wayne Beker, the walk started at Evan's home, led by an ATV as a traffic escort, followed by Evan wearing a rainbow mask, friends and

see **EVERYBODY** page 4



Dozens of people joined Evan Natale, in black wearing a rainbow mask, during the Walk with Evan event on Wednesday evening, July 22 in Harcourt. More than 80 people came out to support the 18-year-old who was harassed for his sexual orientation by a neighbour. /DARREN LUM Staff

Face mask mandate getting mixed reviews in HKPR region

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

A mask mandate issued by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health

Unit for July 13 has been met with positive and negative reviews from the public.

"Like all issues, we have seen mixed reactions," said Chandra Tremblay, spokesperson for the local health unit. "Some people have contacted us to let us know they appreciate the requirement, while others have told us in no uncertain

terms that they do not agree."

Face masks are used to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 by blocking respiratory droplets from entering the air.

As of July 17, the HKPR District Health Unit region has moved into stage 3 of the province's reopening plan, which means more businesses are required to

implement the mask rules. A longer list of establishments includes most indoor places where members of the public congregate including restaurants, churches, public libraries, casinos, museums and many others.

see **PUBLIC** page 2

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Businesses have been instructed by the HKPR Health Unit to create a policy asking customers to wear a mask or face covering when in their stores and to post signs in their windows as a reminder. Those who do not wear a mask are to be given verbal reminders, but businesses are not required to enforce the rule beyond that point. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Public should not police mask-wearing

from page 1

Business owners have been instructed by the health unit to have a policy requesting customers wear a mask or face covering, and to post signs reminding customers that masks should be worn while in the indoor establishment, but have also been instructed they can't turn away customers who cannot or do not wear a mask, nor should a business owner or other customer ask why someone can't wear a mask, in order to protect the person's privacy in the case of health or religious reasons.

Some business owners have cited confusion about their role in enforcing mask-wearing, and the potential for them to be fined should they have a customer enter their business without a mask.

"If a customer comes to the business and is not wearing a mask or face covering, business owners are asked to use their 'best effort' to have them put on a mask," said Tremblay. "This means the customers should be given a verbal reminder about wearing a face mask or covering if they are not wearing a mask. If a customer is seen removing their mask while in the business, the business owner or staff should provide a verbal reminder that customers should be wearing a face covering."

Tremblay said the health unit is working with local bylaw officers as well as police services to provide education about the instructions and the need for a policy and signage to local business owners.

"If the situation arises that enforcement is needed, the health unit will work with its partners to issue a ticket," she said. "...Our staff are actively following up with businesses to review and provide education regarding the mask policy instructions. If, after repeated discussions, a business does not develop a policy or post signage, there may be a ticket levied against the business owner and not the individual staff who work there."

Last week, a new alert on the health unit website reminded site users that the health unit would take calls, but had zero tolerance for callers using profane, abusive or disrespectful language, noting that any such calls would not be responded to, and that calls that included threats would be reported to the police.

“Any public health program that requires enforce-

Updated: July 27, 2020 – 3:55 pm

This is the cumulative data on confirmed COVID-19 cases in the HKPR District Health Unit area.

	Haliburton	City of Kawartha Lakes	Northumberland	HKPRDHU
Confirmed Cases	13	175	25	213
Current Probable Cases+	1	0	0	1
Current High Risk Contacts+	5	2	4	11
Hospitalizations (Total to Date)	1	11	2	14
Resolved**	12	153	24	189
Deaths	0	32	0	32
Current Outbreaks	0	0	0	0

As of July 27, there is one active case of COVID-19 in a Haliburton County resident, with 12 previous cases resolved. One current probable case, and five current high risk contacts, were also reported on July 27. Probable cases are individuals who are a symptomatic close contact of a confirmed case and whose lab results are not available or inconclusive and do not include outbreak-related cases in longterm care homes, while high-risk contacts are defined as asymptomatic individuals who are known to have been in contact with a confirmed or probable case. The hospitalization recorded on this chart is not current. This information is updated on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, excluding holidays. Positive COVID-19 tests conducted in Haliburton County on residents with a primary address outside of Haliburton County are recorded in the health unit of that address. /Screenshot from the HKPRDHU website at hkpr.on.ca.



Golfing for water

Above, Highlands resident Janice Bishop smiles as she attempts to earn a high score at the Putter Challenge sponsored by Protects Lock Inc. to win a putter at the Water Ambassadors eighth annual Charity Golf Classic on Thursday, July 23 at Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre. With the support of about 15 volunteers, the event drew 84 golfers, who played the best ball format adhering to precautionary COVID-19 practices. The event raised money for Water Ambassadors, which provides clean water for communities in developing countries around the world. /DARREN LUM Staff

Above left, Lorry Brandon greets golfers at the registration desk.

Left, Highlands resident J.D. Bishop attempts to earn a high score by putting three golf balls to point-designated holes.

Haliburton County free of blue-green algae so far

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Two lakes in Muskoka have visible blue-green algae blooms this month, but Haliburton County is still clear of the potentially toxic growth.

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit has confirmed small blue-green algae blooms on the eastern end of Ten Mile Bay in Lake of Bays, and at Weismiller Bay on Lake Muskoka.

According to the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, no reports of blue-green algae in Haliburton County have been advised by the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks so far this summer.

On a webpage posted last November, the HKPR District Health Unit describes blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, as being “primitive microscopic organisms that occur naturally in lakes, bays, ponds and inlets. Normally, the algae are barely visible. In warm weather when conditions are right, the algae can rapidly grow to form a large mass (or bloom).”

Though the blooms typically thrive in water that is shallow, slow-moving and warm water, they can also present in deeper, cooler water.

“Dense blue-green algae blooms can make the water look like a bluish-green pea soup, or a shiny paint slick,” reads the health unit’s site. “Very dense blooms may form solid-looking clumps. Fresh blue-green algae blooms often smell like fresh cut grass,

while older blooms can stink like rotten garbage.” Most algae blooms, according to the site, are short-lived and will break down within days or weeks.

A common cause of blue-green algae blooms is the amount of phosphorous and nitrogen available, agricultural and stormwater runoff, as well as leaching from septic systems.

Paul MacInnes, chair of the Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations, said lakefront property owners can minimize the risk of a bloom on their lake by keeping septic systems operating properly, making sure that at least 75 per cent of shoreline is planted with native, deep-rooted trees and plants, and that 75 per cent

of the shoreline of an entire lake is planted in a natural way as well.

The health unit’s website notes that if you suspect a blue-green algae bloom, you should:

- Assume toxins are present
- Avoid using, drinking, bathing or swimming in the water
- Restrict pets from getting into the water

Blooms can be reported to the Spills Action Centre at 1-800-268-6060.

For further information about algae and algal blooms, visit <https://www.cohpoa.org/lake-health-3/algae-and-algal-blooms/>.

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Supporters clap and cheer for Evan Natale as they walk by the house where a neighbour is said to have harassed the Harcourt teenager because of his sexual orientation. The Walk with Evan took place July 22 in Harcourt and was attended by about 80 people who wanted to show their support for the teenager. /DARREN LUM Staff



‘Everybody should feel comfortable’ in a community

from page 1

several horseback riders from South Algonquin Trails. Some people brought

young children. Many in the group had small rainbow flags. Debbie smiled as she looked at the group gathering for her 18-year-old son,

before the walk began. Some came from around the corner, others from nearby communities of Highland Grove and Cardiff, and others from as far away as Belleville. Barrie and Toronto. “I’m loving this. The more people we can reach today the better and let this go viral because this is going to help so many people, not just Evan,” Debbie said. “This is going to help people far and wide.” Ella van Gent of Cardiff, who learned about the walk on Facebook, compared Evan’s situation to bullying. “Everybody should feel comfortable and accepted in a community. If you’re going to be out there and uncomfortable in your own surroundings that’s no life. Everybody has a right to enjoy their life and to be part of an embracing community,” she said. Debbie said she was happy about the support they received. “We’ve never had to rally the troops like this so it’s wonderful. It’s wonderful to see that it’s not just our little community that’s come together. It’s every-

see page 5



World class curler and area cottager John Epping was among the dozens who came out for the Walk with Evan demonstration of support.

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Evan Natale looks over at his mother Debbie, who was instrumental in organizing the Walk with Evan demonstration. /DARREN LUM Staff

Solidarity walk could become annual event

from page 4

body. Obviously this is a bigger problem for all these people than we knew. So, this problem is much bigger and it needs to be stopped. It needs to be dealt with."

"Yeah, it's 2020," Evan said. "We shouldn't have to be doing this to prove a point ... I'm extremely happy to know I have this much support if need be."

Elite Canadian curler and Highlands East cottager John Epping was among the dozens who came to the walk, commending Evan and Debbie for the effort.

"A lot of it is just about being educated more on LGBTQ [issues] and, you know, for me I've always been a big believer in spreading the message of kindness and I think that is so key ... especially with everything we're facing right now in the world," he said. "A little bit of kindness isn't that hard. It goes a long way and I want to spread that message for Evan and show the kindness that this community [demonstrated]. It's more about what this community did for him today and I

feel awful and sorry he had to experience this."

Epping, who came out as gay to friends, family and curling peers several years ago, was with his husband for the walk, wearing the same rainbow flag with a maple leaf in the centre as was held by participants leading the walk. He said he has faced harassment because of his sexual orientation. He said it could be the beginning of an annual event and could inspire other small communities to do something similar.

Epping said the importance of the event was greater than the impact in Harcourt.

"It's not just big for this community. It's big for Ontario. It's big for Canada. It's big for the world to see, you know, this happening. It doesn't matter how big the size is of the [group of] people that show up, it's just important to see support and in a small town, a small community to see so many people coming out that's all that really matters. It doesn't matter how big the area is or the city is," he said.

Echo and Times reporting recognized at Better Newspapers Competition

Staff and contributors at the *Haliburton Echo* and *Minden Times* were recognized through the Better Newspapers Competition of the Ontario Community Newspapers Association on July 24.

Darren Lum was awarded a second place in the Photographer of the Year category, with the judge noting that "Darren Lum is a photographer any newspaper would be lucky to have, producing images that are striking and help tell stories."

Sue Tiffin's feature in the *Minden Times* on the Minden Cat Angels organization earned her a second place in the feature writing category. "Sue Tiffin gives us an

in-depth sense of what propels people to dedicate so much time and resource to improving the lives of feral or abandoned cats. Nicely written too," the judge wrote.

Steve Galea also received second place for Humour Columnist of the Year. "Well put together with great storytelling and sense of humour," the judge said.

The *Minden Times* received an honourable mention in the sports and recreation story category for Sue Tiffin's piece on shuffleboard; and the *Haliburton Echo* received an honourable mention in the arts and entertainment story category for Jenn Watt's piece on the mural project at Highland Wood.

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points of view



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

The words we leave behind

"THIS DOESN'T seem like it would be Dad's username, but doesn't it seem like a coincidence?" I texted my sister. I had stumbled across a post from more than a decade ago on a gardening forum that sounded so much like my dad, who died in May.

I sent her a screenshot, my heart was racing. Was it too much to hope for?

The night before, I had been complaining to her on the phone about problems with some of the plants in my flower garden. Normally, I would ask my father, a horticulturist, what could be causing the problem and he would offer his expertise.

"I don't want to figure this out," I said to her that night. "I just want to ask Dad."

But one of the most painful things when someone you love dies is that you can't ask those little questions. They're no longer just a phone call away.

The next afternoon I decided to go it on my own and see if Google could help me with my mystery. About five online advice websites popped up in the search, and then a garden forum caught my eye. Someone had asked the very question I had: what was eating her plants?

Perfect. I scrolled down to the answers. The first person to respond shared the same name as my father.

The phrasing sounded so much like Dad and it seemed like something he would do, to go online

and engage with an online gardening community. But what are the chances that the very issue I needed him for was the one he would answer?

My sister suggested I look through the user profile to see whether other posts sounded like my dad. They did. And then I found one that included photos asking for help identifying a plant. The plant looked familiar and so did the room. My sister confirmed it: this was our childhood living

room and our plant. These messages were from our dad.

I've since scoured the site for more of his posts and it turns out my father answered a lot of people's gardening questions over the years – everything from dealing with pests to identifying weeds to asking his own questions about new houseplants.

Beyond what this experience means to me personally, it's also a reminder of how long even seemingly insignificant actions can reverberate in the world.

When my dad answered a stranger's gardening question 13 years ago, he never could have guessed that one day his words would bring such comfort to his grieving daughter's heart. In the same way that none of us can imagine how the posts we make, notes we write or things we do will continue to affect others for years to come.

By the way, my dad's advice on what to do about a mystery bug nibbling at my garden? If it's not defoliating the plant, let it have its lunch and enjoy the view.



jenn
watt

Editorial



Summer reflections

by Darren Lum

C/2020 F3 (NEOWISE)

THERE IS nothing like sitting out by a campfire under the evening sky. This article comes to you from my annual cottage adventure to Tobermory where I visit my good friends to soak in all the goodness and beauty that they have to offer. Our days are filled with paddling trips to various locations. The water is vast and deep and the colours of blue change depending on where we paddle. Deep blues, aquamarines, and the light underneath us moves in magical ways. We paddle and then we stop, swim and eat really good food and talk about our lives and our futures and we just soak in the energy.

Even though the Tobermory area is very busy we don't see anyone on our paddles. We return to the cottage and we do some yoga (we all need to stretch more these days) and we read our books and nap and even indulge in the odd glass of wine! By night we build a campfire and we watch the spectacular sunsets and the evening sky. All the colours ebb and flow and dance in the sky. It is quiet, peaceful, there is no virus in the sky and no one needs a TV or laptop to pass the time. The show is the sky. This year we've been watching the comet NEOWISE, or C/2020 F3 (NEOWISE). It is the brightest comet to be in the sky in the past seven years. We have seen it with just our eyes, but binoculars and a scope really help.

NEOWISE can be found in the northwestern sky below, and to the

right of the big dipper. I know there is an app that can help you locate it and it is called the "Star Walk 2" app and you just enter NEOWISE and you will get the help you need. We didn't need the app because the comet is still bright enough to find, but as we move more into August and the NEOWISE moves farther away from Earth the app might help. The comet became visible to us around 10:30 p.m., so about an hour after sunset. You need it to be very dark.

The moon is very small right now and so that also helps because it is giving off less light, making it easier to see the comet.

The name C/2020 F3 (NEOWISE) comes because the comet was discovered using the NEOWISE space telescope. C obviously stands for comet and the year it was discovered is its name. F indicates that the

comet was discovered in the second half of March; and number 3 designates that it was the third comet identified in that half month. The beauty of being out at night to look for the comet, is that even if you can't find it, the Milky Way and the whole evening sky is spectacular. It fills the soul. Those of us who live and cottage in Haliburton County have this opportunity at our fingertips. As my friend Janine regularly reminds me, we are so very lucky. The next time you will be able to see this comet is in the year 8786, so it's worth getting out to see it this year! Rumi says "let the water settle, you will see the moon and stars mirrored in your own being."

Tales from
the great



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points of view

The fast and the furriest

IF YOU'VE been paying attention to the big news story in Ontario and around the world this year, you are probably just as amazed as I am.

More than that, you are likely asking yourself the question: how is this even possible?

And that would be a good thing to ask too, because it is not every day that a bear breaks into 10 cars.

For those of you who have been distracted by lesser news stories, let me fill you in. A bear, who presumably had a poor upbringing and anti-social tendencies, broke into 10 cars over the period of a few days, along the Ken-naway Road in late June. This was covered by this paper and other media.

The bear, described as furry with big paws, is still at large.



steve
galea

Loon Tales

Since the police have investigated the case, the bear in question has kept a low profile – and no more break-ins have been reported. Although, if you ask me, this just means he's planning something big. It's just a matter of time.

The police, of course, did all they could do in a situation like this. They warned people in the area, put out a press release so that the media could make more people aware, commissioned an artist's depiction by Robert Bate-man, and then educated folks on

how to avoid attracting bears and told them what to do if they encounter one.

As a public service, I am going to provide even more information. Here then are detailed instructions on how to ensure your vehicle is bear free and what to do if it's not.

First – and this is possibly the most important thing you can do – when you approach your car anywhere in central Ontario, check it for bears. Don't just do a cursory external examination either. Be thorough. Check the front and back seat, the trunk, the glove box and even the cup holder and ash tray. Bears are notoriously good at hiding.

There are also subtle signs that might catch your eye too, such as a missing front seat or quarter panel or maybe a half eaten steering wheel. Also, if there is a fish carcass or two in your car that you didn't put there, this could be a clue that a bear is in the immediate vicinity.

Last, if your car is a convertible for the first time ever, there's probably a bear nearby.

If all the clues indicate that your car is a bear-free zone, feel free to cautiously enter it. But, before you strap on your seat belt, have a good look in the rear-view mirror. If you see something black and furry, perhaps tearing up the interior, it is likely a bear.

At this point, it is best to remain calm and say something productive like, "Hello Sir, my name is Steve and I am your Uber driver. Where would you like to go?"

If there is no response, start by visiting your local doughnut shop and suggesting that the drive-thru is too busy. If that doesn't work, then swing by the landfill and the nearest salmon run and drive off while he checks them out. Also, don't mention Goldilocks or ask for an opinion on porridge or who can prevent forest fires, unless you are prepared to have your ear talked off.

Having said that, it's best not to be in that situation in the first place. Which is why there is something to be said for motorcycles.



pic of the past

This group of women formed the Women's Institute back when this photo was taken in 1934. They are standing in front of the stone gate that once gave access to the community fairgrounds, now the parking lot and skate park behind the Dysart municipal offices in Haliburton. The WI supported a number of good causes in the community over the years. /Photo last ran in the *Echo* in 2009, originally submitted by Bob Brohm

letters to the editor

Masks protect others from you

To the Editor,

As those in Haliburton know – only too graphically – there are many who do not want to wear a mask. They will try to justify their position with wild claims, showing a fake 'Get Out of Jail Card' or just plain stubborn refusal – often stating "It's a free country and I am free to do what I want."

To them, my reply is – "If you and any of your freedom loving friends want to jump off a cliff, then by all means do so. You have the right to do it. But you do not have the right to push someone

else off that cliff."

It is well known that asymptomatic people (who show no signs of being contagious) can unknowingly infect others.

The main reason for wearing a mask is that it protects the wearer from infecting others. Those who refuse to wear a mask are therefore potentially pushing others off a cliff.

They have the right to jump, but not to push.

Dennis Choptiany
Koshlong Lake

An ounce of prevention

To the Editor,

Let me begin by saying I understand how difficult and frustrating these last months have been – with children at home full time, job and food insecurity as daily concerns, and "cabin fever" at an all time high. The uncertainty on all fronts has been devastating to our accepted way of life. Everything has changed! These are extraordinary, unprecedented, uncertain times.

As a single parent and retired teacher – with six years' experience in the Montessori Method of Education, (students aged 2 ½ - seven years), and 22 years teaching in the public education sector, (elementary panel JK to 6), I would like to share my perspective and concerns on the proposed reopening of schools in September.

Schools are not businesses, and ought not to be treated as such. Young children, by their very nature, are kinesthetic active learners. They are ego-centric, and not inclined to practise social distancing. We've seen thousands of examples of adults who refuse to follow the rules. How can we expect youngsters to comply 100 per cent of the time? Children learn through sharing manipulative materials, and by role-playing with toys and apparatus. I have yet to discover how best to sanitize plasticine and like materials, blocks, manipulative alphabet letters and shared pencils, crayons, markers, scissors and books. All choir and orchestral groups and many churches are not yet allowed to re-open, due to the risk of droplet

spray, which can cover a distance of 16 feet. Children (and many adults) do not always sneeze or cough into their elbows or sweater. They make physical contact with one another in the classroom, on the playground, in the gym, the lunchroom, and on full-capacity buses.

The virus has demonstrated an entirely different set of symptoms in children such as swollen feet, rashes and dark markings, to name a few. The long-term effects of having had COVID-19 are, as yet, unknown. We need only look as far back as the SARS epidemic to know that one exposure in one facility – carried to another, became a devastating reality. Educators who work in one community most often commute long distances to other districts, where they live and their children are schooled. This is a recipe for disaster. The government and medical officers of health had it right the first time... "just stay home." Perhaps the reason that we have not seen a surge of childhood cases during the pandemic thus far is because the children have been isolated for the most part since the beginning of the outbreak?

I pose the following questions for consideration: Who will be responsible for the daily monitoring of staff and students prior to entering the building? How will that monitoring be achieved? How will bus students and drivers be protected on their oftentimes hour-long trips (especially in rural areas) to and from school?

How will custodial staff be able to deep clean

see WHAT page 8



Escape to the End of the Rail

A visual diary of a young girl choosing to leave everything behind to observe life at the rails end

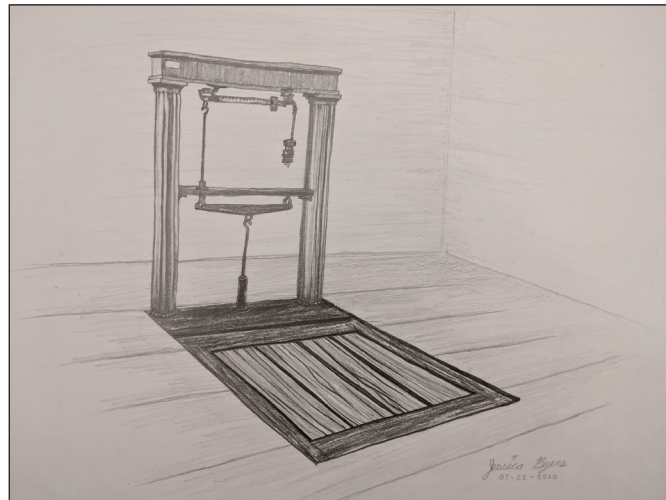
Feb. 6, 1937

My family and I just woke up from our first night here in Haliburton. We are staying at a local hotel until we find a new place to stay routinely, like a cottage. I want to tell you about an interesting thing that we did yesterday after we sent the wire to Grandma. My dad works for a railway company in the city, so he had some connections with people who work at Haliburton Station. My dad mentioned my fascination with trains to them, so they let us have a tour inside the freight shed! My favourite part of the tour was the weigh scale. It was in the middle of the room flush to the floor, so that carts could roll on and off easily. For fun I stood on the weigh scale, and we measured my weight. I weighed 70 pounds.

Until next time Diary...

Come visit the Rails End Gallery to learn more about the evolution of Haliburton Station on our new slideshow presentation in the lobby.

Written by Jessica Byers



What happens if COVID-19 is found in the school?

from page 7

the multiple surfaces in classrooms, plus gyms, shared gym equipment, etc. on a daily basis? What additional costs will be incurred for specific cleaning materials and staff needed to clean not only existing schools, but proposed additional buildings such as community centres to create additional classroom space, as well as daycares, nursery schools and private schools to keep all child-related spaces to the standard expected of business workplaces?

If one suspected case of COVID-19 presents itself, then presumably the entire building must be immediately evacuated, and that population tested and quarantined. What kind of panic might ensue as a result? Plans must be in place for both densely populated areas and rural settings alike. Who will conduct the rigorous contact-tracing once the students are returned home? How does one explain all of these protocols to ESL students new to school, the community and non-English speaking? How do we ensure the health and safety of those with learning challenges and specific needs?

For six months last year, teachers and parents objected to the governments' intentions to cut programs, eliminate jobs and overhaul education for fiscal efficiency. Now, there is a movement towards massive hiring, while still cutting specific programs, and utilizing inappropriate buildings to create the additional class spaces needed. What are the logistics for parents who may have children schooled in different locations? Educational workers do not have the requisite medical training to cope with eventualities, but they are front-line workers of a different stripe, changed with the welfare, safety and education of hundreds of thousands of students in Ontario. Where are the protocols and training in place to ensure that mandate, prior to

re-opening our schools? To send educational workers back into the trenches ill-equipped and unprepared for every foreseeable eventuality is irresponsible, ill-advised and would be sheer folly. Many teachers are already re-writing their wills, at the prospect of a return to school in September. They realize what is at stake, and know the occupational hazards of this profession.

From a global perspective, our Canadian politicians and medical personnel at every level, have done a stellar job, on all fronts, to keep us informed, safe and supported, to the best of their abilities, medically, financially and emotionally. We need only look south of the border to know what havoc a cavalier disregard for following prescribed protocols has wrought. The second wave has already reared its ugly head in countries which believed they had things under control, and who must now return to stage 1 pandemic protocols. It continues to flourish, unabated, in Africa, India and Brazil with devastating, daily consequences. Canada needs to continue its leadership role, if we are to move safely through to the other side.

As a single parent, I fully understand and appreciate parents' needs to work and financially support their families and businesses. There is no easy answer. Children must not, cannot be the experimental pawns, in order to regain fiscal viability for our province or our country. "Children are dying to go back to school" can all too quickly become "Children died because they went back to school."

Should the unthinkable happen, and a childhood outbreak occurs if and when school reopens, how prepared are our hospitals to deal with it, and the specific needs of children? Are there child-sized respirators, PPE, and intubation equipment readily available? We had to scramble for months to acquire enough medical supplies to deal with the adult onslaught of the virus. Are the

industries currently re-tooling to design and produce PPE and respirators also preparing equipment for children, should that become necessary? Is the loss of even one child worth the risk?

Collectively, we have done a good job thus far. I believe it would be prudent, given so many unknown factors and possibilities, to develop appropriate safety-training measures and procedures first – prior to re-opening the schools, and postpone the re-opening while there is still so much uncertainty sur-

rounding the second wave and its interaction with influenza. Let's stay the course awhile longer, until a preventative protocol and/or antidote is approved and universally available. All of our lives depend on that!

The old adage "An ounce of prevention is worth the pound of cure," never rang truer than it does today.

Cheryl Cohoon
Haliburton



A swinging good time

Six-year-old Ethan Biback, left, and his mother Kimberly enjoy the swings at the Head Lake playground on Wednesday, July 22 in Haliburton. The visitors from Thornhill were up for a visit and had already been to the park earlier in the week as playgrounds that had been closed as a coronavirus precaution reopened./DARREN LUM Staff



MINDEN SUBARU



13061 Hwy 35
Minden, ON
705-286-6126

Health unit answers questions on COVID-19 data, contact tracing

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

As of Monday, July 27, 13 people in Haliburton County have had confirmed cases of Haliburton County. All cases but one, reported yesterday, have been resolved.

The *Haliburton Echo* asked the health unit some of the questions about its data and the reporting of it that readers have asked online.

Schedule of data reporting changes to three times a week

Though data was initially uploaded on the weekend and daily throughout the week, as of last week, the health unit announced the information would now be updated on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays only, excluding holidays.

"The change in reporting reflects what other Ontario health units are doing and is also indicative of the relatively stable COVID-19 situation currently being seen in the area," said Chandra Tremblay, HKPR District Health Unit spokesperson. "While HKPR staff will continue to provide daily COVID-19 case counts to the province, the reporting change will also free up time and resources for the health unit to focus more closely on general COVID-19 trends and patterns in the community. This can help to better inform HKPR's actions to further prevent the spread of the virus in the community and assist the health unit in preparing for the next phase of the pandemic."

The health unit is moving back into recovery mode, offering programs and services, Tremblay said, and is also adopting a new case and contact management program that replaces the integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) being implemented by the province. The new program, said Tremblay, "requires a great deal of time to implement and train staff before the system goes live."

Confirmed cases are primary residents in Haliburton County only

As reported by the *Haliburton Echo* in April, positive COVID-19 case numbers are listed under the health unit of the infected person's primary residence, which means that the results of those testing positive in Haliburton County who typically live elsewhere are being reported by other health units despite the person having been in Haliburton County, and potentially staying here in isolation. Tremblay said this is the practice with all reportable diseases with all health units in Ontario.

In this case, could data in Ontario potentially be skewed, with some places being deemed hot spots though residents with confirmed positive tests might not be located there, or with hospitalizations occurring of people whose positive cases aren't recorded in the region of the hospital?

"When working with reportable, communicable diseases like COVID-19, health units and health partners from across the province will work closely with each other," said Tremblay. "For example, if a positive case

resides in another area, but is isolating in the HKPR area, HKPR receives necessary notifications and updates from our public health unit partners. This is also the case with our local hospitals – the health unit works very closely with its local hospitals and will share information about cases and discuss next steps. Through contact tracing, all health units do a thorough investigation of who the confirmed case may have been in contact with during their infectious period. This information is also shared with other health units so that the local health unit may do any contact follow up that is necessary."

Information reported excludes age, gender, town/location

When the health unit has reported confirmed cases, numerous readers have asked for more information, including where that person lives within the county – the health unit, however, does not provide information broken down by lower tier municipality or community.

"This is done because the health unit has the legal responsibility to protect personal health information it has collected under various pieces of legislation such as the Health Protection and Promotion Act," said Tremblay. "Although it may seem that our geographic area has a large enough population to make it impossible to identify an individual, we essentially cover three counties comprised of small towns and it could be very easy to identify someone who tests positive."

"Health units that are providing a more granular breakdown of the residence of positive cases typically have larger populations, making it more difficult to potentially identify a person who has tested positive," said Tremblay.

Health unit follows up with contacts of people with positive test

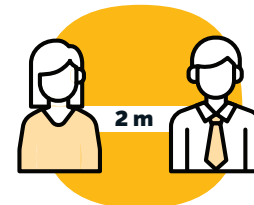
HKPR District Health Unit staff have been busy with case and contact management, said Tremblay, noting that although the province is rolling out the new online platform to replace iPHIS, the process behind case and contact management remains the same.

The health unit follows up with anyone who has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, a process called "contact tracing."

Individuals who are considered close contacts to someone who has COVID-19 can include family members, people living in the same household, and anyone who has had direct contact with someone with a positive COVID-19 case.

"The health unit will follow up with these close contacts and give instructions on what they need to do (like self-isolating) to slow the spread of COVID-19," said Tremblay. "The health unit will also do daily phone calls with close contacts to check in on them and ensure they follow public health directions. Health unit staff also work with anyone who has been directed to self-isolate to help ensure they have supports in place for things like grocery delivery, medical appointments and any other identified needs."

As more businesses and services reopen, we must all continue our efforts to protect each other.



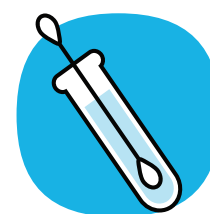
Continue to practice physical distancing, stay two metres apart even in gatherings.



Wear a face covering where physical distancing is a challenge or where required.



Continue to wash hands frequently.



Get tested if you are worried you may have COVID-19, or have been exposed to the virus.

Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.

Visit ontario.ca/coronavirus
Paid for by the Government of Ontario

Ontario

HHHS ends fiscal year with surplus

JENN WATT

Editor

The last fiscal year for Haliburton Highlands Health Services has been one unlike any other, the attendees of the annual general meeting heard on July 16.

"It certainly was an unprecedented year and as you know ... our team has been working very hard to ensure HHHS is able to continue providing excellent, high quality, compassionate care," CEO Carolyn Plummer said in her address, which was made over the Zoom online videoconferencing service.

Although much attention has been pointed toward the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the AGM addressed work done in 2019, as the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020.

Plummer's report showed that the emergency departments continued to see steady usage with more than 11,300 visits to the Haliburton site and nearly 15,000 visits in Minden. Telemedicine services, which connect patients to health-care services at a distance using technology, included more than 1,400 visits in 2019-2020,

saving about 466,000 kilometres of driving. Telemedicine became "more popular and more critical" during the pandemic.

Other services highlighted included physiotherapy services (1,200 in-patient visits), diagnostic imaging (more than 10,000 X-rays), long-term care (with more than 90 residents), and a wide array of community programs.

Community Support Services was busy in 2019-2020 offering diabetes education, Meals on Wheels, mental health services, transportation, friendly visiting, foot care, the adult day program, bereavement program, home help, and more.

Plummer provided an update on how HHHS is moving forward on components of its strategic plan, including receiving the "in development" designation toward creating an Ontario Health Team. This process was put on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic, however the CEO explained that the team used the structure already assembled for the Ontario Health Team application to respond to the pandemic.

"Although this obviously was not in the plans, ... we basically shifted our Ontario Health Team efforts into our pandemic planning efforts. And so the task force

emerged quite naturally and the group of people around the table continues to meet today to work on making sure we are doing everything we can do to keep our community safe," she said.

The Haliburton Highlands Ontario Health Team, if given the green light from the Ministry of Health, is a collection of health-care partners who would collaborate on delivering services to the region.

Plummer said the master plan's first phase is complete and that a work plan has been created to apply for additional long-term care beds. Funding is being sought for a second phase of the master plan. An in-depth review of emergency response plans is underway. She also noted that in the last year the roof leak was repaired at Highland Wood long-term care home following a months-long evacuation.

The CEO thanked the staff for their work: "This year has demonstrated beyond any doubt that our team has had the strength, the resilience and the dedication that goes beyond any words that I could possibly imagine."

New ER doc added to team

Dr. Keith Hay, past chief of staff, similarly said that focus has gone to COVID-19 preparations at HHHS and he noted the work of Dr. Steve Ferracuti in providing leadership. "That said, every physician member of the [Medical Advisory Committee] has been involved in making the changes that have occurred since March and on behalf of the hospital I want to thank them, as well as the staff, management and board for a job well done."

A new physician for the Haliburton emergency department has joined the team and Hay said he anticipated more doctors to come. "This has reduced the number of [emergency department] shifts filled by the Health Force Ontario's ED Locum Program," he said.

Hay noted that midwives have been credentialed at HHHS "and while this does not mean that they will be delivering newborns at our hospital, we are able to assist them with the valuable care they provide pregnant women in our community."

Dr. Karl Hartwick's 40 years of service was recognized and the AGM attendees heard he will be appointed an honorary member of the Medical Advisory Committee.

Year-end surplus

HHHS finished the 2019-2020 fiscal year with a surplus of just more than \$20,000, according to information presented by John West of Grant Thornton. Slides showed most of the corporation's income (82 per cent) comes from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care with more than \$22 million. Net revenues for 2020 were about \$27.5 million.

Salaries, wages and benefits account for 62 per cent of spending at more than \$17 million, followed by "other supplies" at \$5.4 million, medical compensation at \$3.2 million and drugs and medical supplies at more than \$393,000.

Financial information shows grants and donations in 2020 nearing \$1.5 million with \$756,000 from the HHHS Foundation, \$70,000 from the Haliburton auxiliary, \$29,000 from the Minden auxiliary, about \$78,000 from insurance proceeds, and \$546,400 from Ministry of Health grants.

Chiefs of staff recognized

In a document circulated following the meeting, Dr. Kristy Gammon and Dr. Keith Hay were thanked for their service to HHHS. Dr. Gammon was chief of staff from 2017 to 2019 and Dr. Hay filled that role when Dr. Gammon left on sabbatical from February 2019 to June 2020.

"Dr. Gammon's steadfast commitment has supported the organization's values of compassion, accountability, integrity and respect," the document reads, "and her important and lasting contribution to HHHS as chief of staff will leave a lasting legacy."

She is credited with working on physician recruitment and retention, improving care support for patients awaiting long-term care, input on policies and clinical programs, among other things.

Dr. Hay's willingness to step in when Dr. Gammon left was noted as well as the "fresh perspective and ideas [he brought to] the organization." Dr. Hay launched the environmental committee, helped with the accreditation survey process and supported the medical team during the COVID-19 crisis.



Our RE/MAX Agents worked hard over the last month to really help celebrate the Graduating Class of 2020!

By delivering over 120 yard signs locally, we brought attention to those graduating from Grade 8, Grade 12, and College and University! Our Agents worked together to do 10x \$50 Gift Certificate draws from all of those Grads and prizes were delivered last week!

Thank you to our Agents who helped support this campaign:

Linda Baumgartner
Terry Carr
Melanie Hevesi
Deb Lambe
Lynda Litwin

Kelly Mercer
Lisa Mercer
Joel Taylor
Todd Tiffin
Ted Vasey



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Take to the trails

South Algonquin Trails Inc. instructor Jean Abernethy leads a group of young riders on a trail, following a lesson on how to prepare the horse for riding on Friday, July 24 in Harcourt. The Highlands East operator started its summer season on Monday, June 29 and offers programming Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to noon during the months of July and August. Operator and owner Tammy Donaldson said, "Horseback riding is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and trails, all while staying six feet apart." /DARREN LUM Staff

Young riders emerge from the forest while at the South Algonquin Trails Inc. property during summer programming.



HALIBURTON & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB 2020 VIRTUAL TOLL BRIDGE FUNDRAISER



Hi There!
Have you stopped
at the Lions Toll
Bridge?



What Toll Bridge?
I didn't see it.
Where is it?



**It's 2020! The year the Lions Toll Bridge goes virtual.
Yes, the Toll Bridge is online! Donate what you can.
Every donation makes a difference!**

With your help we will reach our goal of \$7,000.00!

Please go to haliburtonlions.com and donate.

**Fundraiser ends on
Monday, September 7, 2020 at noon.**

July 24, 2020



NOTICE TO THE PATIENTS OF DR. AOIFE CONWAY

It is with mixed emotions that I wish to inform you that I will be retiring from my family practice at the end of December 2020.

It has been my sincere privilege and honour to have been your family physician for the past number of years.

I appreciate and value the relationships that have developed as a result.

I am very excited and pleased to be able to inform you that Dr. Haley Hatch will be taking over my practice starting January 4, 2021. Many of you have already met Dr. Hatch as she has covered my practice at various times over the past 2 years. You will know, as I do, that she is a kind, caring and extremely capable physician. I know you will be well cared for. She will be a welcome addition to our health care team.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call my office at 705-457-1212 and ask to speak to our office manager.

I would like to thank you for your kindness and support over the years and I wish you all the best in the future.

Warmest regards,
Aoife Conway, MD., CCFP.

Mid-year review shows county finances OK

CHAD INGRAM
Staff Reporter

Haliburton County councillors received a mid-year review of the county’s finances at a July 22 online meeting, a review they

had requested in May amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

That review showed the county to be in a stable financial situation, although chief administrative officer Mike Rutter was careful to emphasize at the beginning of that discussion, that the county government realizes that many residents have been left in dire financial straits as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.

One option before council was the re-opening of the budget to reduce costs, something that was not recommended by staff, unless the county’s four lower-tier municipalities were going to re-open theirs as well.

The lower-tier municipalities collect taxes on behalf of themselves, the upper tier of the county, and the school board. The municipalities have pushed their property tax deadlines back over the past few months to give residents some leniency amid the crisis.

“Those who have sent out their final bills would actually have to re-bill,” Rutter said, “and I’m not sure the extent of the challenges that would create for them, but in order to pass those savings along to ratepayers, they would have to re-bill their final bills.”

A report from treasurer Elaine Taylor contained a list of projects that, if set aside, could result in potential capital savings of nearly \$500,000, as well as operational savings of more than \$250,000, should they be required. The county has incurred some unbudgeted expenses as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, such as heightened cleaning budgets and IT expenses for the facilitation of online meetings. However, it has also saved money in other areas due to the pan-

demic. Money had been budgeted for staff for the implementation of shoreline protection bylaw, for example. The public input process on that controversial bylaw was delayed because of the crisis.

Overall, halfway through the year, the county had spent 48 per cent of its budget.

“So, we are running on budget for the end of year, we don’t have issues with cash,” Taylor told councillors. “The local municipalities appear to be meeting their obligations with respect to the levy payments.”

“Overall, the county is in a very good financial standing,” Taylor said, adding its approximate \$4 million in reserves are expected to total \$4.5 million by the end of the year.

“To me, the purpose of requesting this report was more, in my mind . . . were there going to be loss of revenues in some areas, we didn’t want a big surprise come November or December, and say, oh, we’re in quite a bit of deficit this year, and then have to pull from reserves,” said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts, who added she thought the lower-tier municipalities would be hit harder with revenue losses associated with the COVID-19 crisis. “We have lost revenue from parking meters. I know it doesn’t sound significant, but it’s like \$50,000 . . . we have loss of revenues at our arenas, we have loss of revenues in other areas. So maybe it’s more the lower tiers that are going to have to be looking at it.”

County Warden Liz Danielsen, also deputy mayor for the Township of Algonquin Highlands, said Algonquin Highlands had taken similar revenue hits in its parks, rec and trails department.

Crossword brought to you by

Ken Barry
705-754-5280
ken@kenbarry.com





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- CLUES ACROSS

1. Slopes

7. Attacks

13. One who has left prison

14. Goes against

16. Atomic #37

17. Home of The Beatles

19. Mac alternative

20. A common boundary with

22. Fluid in a plant

23. Genus that includes scads

25. Longer of the forearm bones

26. Gradually disappears

28. AI risk assessor

29. Type of whale

30. Jaws of a voracious animal

31. Patriotic women (abbr.)

33. Ancient Egyptian God

34. Obsessed with one’s appearance

36. Erase

38. A type of smartie

40. Nostrils

41. Influential French thinker

43. Popular K-pop singer

44. One point south of due east

45. Payroll company

47. Moved quickly on foot

48. Bar bill
51. An idiot

53. Indicates silence

55. Protein-rich liquids

56. Rhythmic patterns

58. Scatter

59. Belongs to bottom layer

60. Impulsive part of the mind

61. Carousel

64. Type of degree

65. Ornamental molding

67. Locks in again

69. Sounds the same

70. Come into view

CLUES DOWN

1. Speak rapidly

2. Trauma center

3. River in W. Africa

4. Ancient Greek district

5. Bulgaria’s monetary unit

6. Children’s ride

7. Absorbed liquid

8. Markets term

9. Retail term recording sales

10. Automaton

11. Spanish form of “be

12. Divide

13. Malaysian sailing boat

15. Writers

18. Cool!

21. Popular tourist attraction studio

24. Sets free
26. An enthusiastic devotee of sports

27. Unhappy

30. Alternate term for Holy Scripture

32. Influential French scholar

35. What thespians do

37. Local area network

38. Free from contamination

39. Coastal region of Canada

42. Sun up in New York

43. High schoolers’ exam

46. Fathers

47. Call it a career

49. Suitable for growing crops

50. Rose-red variety of spinel

52. Orange-brown in color

54. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks

55. Late TNT sportscaster

57. A way to wedge

59. Cold, dry Swiss wind


62. Hockey players need it

63. Something highly prized

66. Atomic #45

68. Top lawyer

Answers on page 15



Municipality of Dysart et al

135 Maple Ave., P.O. Box 389,
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
Telephone: (705) 457-1740
Email: info@dysartet.al.ca
Website: www.dysartet.al.ca

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

• **DATE:** Wednesday, August 12th 2020

• **TIME:** 11:00 am.

• **LOCATION:** The Committee of Adjustment will be held as an electronic meeting only.
The meeting will be recorded through the conferencing application and live streamed to YouTube.

APPLICATIONS:

1. D13-MV-2020-009 –Henderson

• The following variance is requested to recognize the lot frontage on a lot in the RU1 zone:
(a) A decrease to the provisions of Section 9.2 to permit a lot in the Rural Type 1 (RU1) zone to have a minimum lot frontage of 40 metres (131 feet) as opposed to the required minimum of 180 metres (590.5 feet).

• Location: Part Lot 10, Concession 5, in the Geographic Township of Guilford, in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton (1299 Nila Road).

• This variance is a condition of an application of consent H-024/19.

Due to the Covid-19 Emergency, Council passed By-law 2020-44 that amends the Committee of Adjustment of the Municipality of Dysart et al's Procedural By-Law to permit electronic participation in meetings. **There will not be an in-person meeting; this meeting will be conducted in an electronic format only.**

For more information about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Secretary-Treasurer at jiles@dysartet.al.ca.

ANY PERSON is entitled to attend the hearing to express his/her views about these applications or may be represented by an agent for that purpose. If you do not attend the hearing the Committee may proceed in your absence and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings. The Committee will accept oral and written submissions. **A copy of the decision will be sent to the applicant, the agent and to each person who has filed with the Secretary Treasurer a written request for notice of the decision.**

FURTHER INFORMATION: including specific information about the zone provisions affected by each application, and electronic meeting process is available from the Planning and Land Information Department at the Municipal Office by appointment only (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Jeff Iles
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment



Shadow Lake \$699,000
 • Over 300 feet of prime Shadow Lake waterfront on 16 vacant acres
 • Developed shoreline is sandy with a gradual, easy entry. Potential for severance



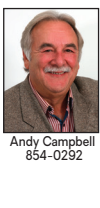
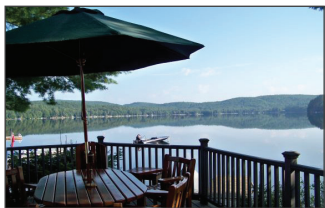
West Lake Building Lot \$265,300
 • Prime lot with a stunning view over the Lake
 • Year-round township road, terrific building site
 • Hydro & Bell are available at the lot line



Benoir Lake \$334,900
 • 1.21 acre building lot on a year-round road
 • Located across the road from Algonquin Park
 • Benoir Lake features over 28 miles of boating and access to Elephant and Baptiste lake



Downtown Dorset \$199,900
 • Clean and tidy commercial retail space, or office
 • Currently used as a Spa but with lots of potential for other businesses
 • Close walk to shopping, parks, the lake and more



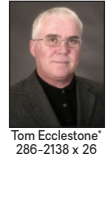
Business for Sale
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Kennisis Lake \$399,000
 • 101 feet of waterfront. With NE exp
 • Small cove on the left side of property
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Hwy Commercial Opportunity \$299,900
 • 666 Ft Rd Frtg, 3.4 Acr
 • 868 Sq Ft Bldg, High traffic location
 • Between Haliburton & Carnarvon on Hwy 118



Commercial Units for Lease
 • 1000 sq ft, end unit, HWY 35 and CR 21
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Brady Lake Lot \$109,999
 • Western Exposure for sun all day
 • Dead end road between Property & Lake
 • Partially owned waterfront
 • Stunning water views



Trooper Lake \$529,000
 • Beautiful 3 bedroom cottage in a lovely setting
 • Private location with sand beach and a boathouse on the water's edge
 • Western exposure for beautiful sunset views



Miskwabi Lake \$949,900
 • Over 4000 sq. ft home on 2-lake chain
 • Double garage, log workshop and drive shed
 • SW exposure, beautiful sand beach



Norland Home \$329,000
 • New Home 1,000 sq ft
 • 2 bedroom town water
 • 5 new appliances



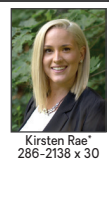
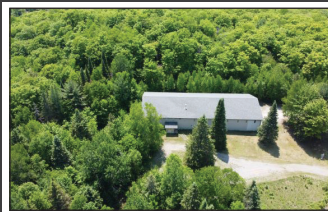
Silver Beach \$479,000
 • Open concept, 3-bedroom, 2 bath condo
 • Located in a premium no maintenance Lifestyle community on Lake Kashagawigamog



Eels Lake \$170,000
 • Island lot, w/views on 3 sides, 93 yards from mainland
 • 3 season cottage, 2 bdrms, loft, 3pc bath
 • .39 acres on automatic 5 yr land renewal lease



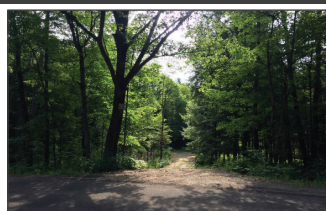
Green Lake \$447,900
 • 2 cottages on a fabulous 3 lake chain
 • Rippled sand shoreline with sunset views
 • Cottage 1: 615 Sq Ft, 2 bedroom, 1 bath
 • Cottage 2: 500 Sq Ft 1 bedroom, 1 bath



Industrial Park Rd \$1,350,000
 • 12,000 sq ft of mixed use industrial and commercial space
 • Sitting on a private 6.75 acre lot in Haliburton
 • Unlimited possibilities with this building!



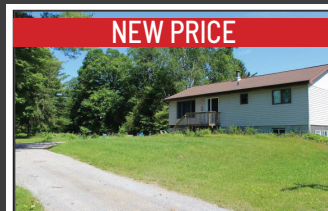
Fortescue Lake \$549,900
 • Well kept 3-bedroom cottage with Sunroom
 • Extras include bunkie, boat house & water toys
 • Fully equipped, call for more details!



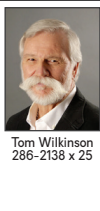
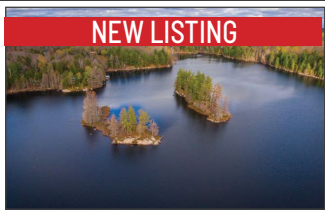
VACANT LAND - Buckslide Rd.
 • 1.4 acres
 • Cleared, driveway, dug well
 • Toys included
 • Offered for \$74,900



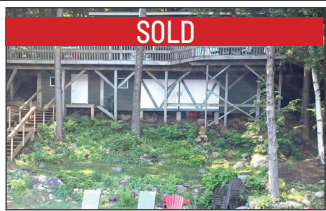
Haliburton Lake \$894,900
 • 3-bedroom 2.5 bath modern lakefront home
 • Spectacular view, deep water off the dock
 • Renovated Boathouse, 2 double car garages
 • 1280 Sq Ft garage/shop with high ceilings



Overlooking Green Lk \$459,000
 • Bungalow w/ Granny Flat
 • 2.3 Acres, 496' Rd Frontage
 • Dock & Pergola Lakeside
 • Commercial zoning for multiple uses



Bushwolf Lake \$1,345,000
 • 755 acres of wilderness
 • Over half of waterfront on Bushwolf Lake
 • Just imagine the possibilities!



Kennisis Lake \$675,000
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 • 100' of sand shoreline and expansive lake views
 • Extensive upgrades inside & out + a solid rental history!

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Haliburton resident and hairstylist Sharon Heilemann is offering free haircuts for people who come to her with a proof of a \$25 donation to the Haliburton hospital. Her fundraising initiative started in June. /DARREN LUM Staff

Right, Sharon Heilemann trims client and friend Maggie Thompson's hair at her residence on Wigamog Road.



Hairdresser lends a hand for hospital fundraiser

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Sharon Heilemann of Hair by Sharon is giving back to Haliburton's health care system the best way she can with her skills and passion as a hairstylist.

In the business since 1984, based in Holland Landing, Heilemann's heart belongs to the Highlands, where she has cottaged since the 1970s.

She said she feels a deep sense of gratitude for the health professionals and the hospital that added years to her parents' lives – her father had his life saved twice.

For this reason, she's opened a space at her Wigamog Road residence offering haircuts to anyone who has proof of making a \$25 donation to the Haliburton hospital. With the pandemic, she said the money will additionally help front-line workers with their efforts.

Her goal is to raise \$10,000 and so far has had 30 people donate.

"I don't think we'll get to \$10,000, but it's worth a shot

and who knows I might continue after that," she said.

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation executive director Lisa Tompkins welcomed the effort and said it demonstrates the giving nature of the community.

"We're so fortunate to have the generosity of so many members of the community and we're ... so appreciative too with the creativity and the initiatives that people take to create these opportunities," she said.

"[It's] really such a lovely gesture. It's an indication of the generosity we see so often in this community," Tompkins said.

Other community fundraising efforts for HHHSF include the current Todd's Independent Grocer's annual

Ask at the Till fundraiser for new capital equipment, ACM Designs' virtual fundraiser, and in May yoga instructor Gail Holness raised funds for HHHSF through online classes.

These kinds of efforts are important for the foundation because it helps to generate income that was lost to the pandemic such as the cancellation of the annual Matt Duchene Golf Classic.

"We're very grateful for all these kinds of efforts that will help to contribute what we're trying to raise over the course of the year," Tompkins said.

To arrange an appointment to have your hair cut by Heilemann, call 905-713-4652.

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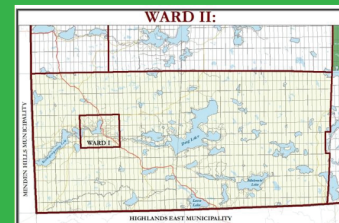
Koshlong Lake Association

Lake Kashagawigamog

Association

Miskwabi Area Community

Association



Larry Clarke is the Councillor for Ward 2 in the Municipality of Dysart et al.

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Bogart the Wonder Bear, don'tcha know

I'VE GOT A STORY to tell you that warms my heart every time I think about it. So, kick back with a nice cuppa tea or coffee or cool lemonade or such, and come with me back in time when ol' Maybelle was younger and friskier, albeit still looking like a dried out apple doll with grey curly hair, don'tcha know. But, having enough energy in those days to take on the greatest adventure of my life – becoming mom to Bogart the wonder bear.

There I was, out back of my cottage foraging through the woods for twigs and the like for my fire pit, don'tcha know. The air was thick with summer and the sweet fragrance of wild blackberries. I had my thick high-top boots on, which was a good thing because they're clumsy as all get-out and caused me to take my time with every step. That's how I noticed him. A wee baby bear curled up and all alone.

Thunder broke, lightning flashed, and ol' Maybelle realized this baby was an orphan. (I found out later that its mother had been struck by a truck and died.) So, I gathered him up in my arms and took him home.

Now, this small puff of black fur weighed all of

one pound, so I figured he was a week or so old... and boy was he hungry. Well, I put the call out to my good friend Twindle Mumbly who was a taxidermist and knew a lot about animals, and he came over with baby bottles and milk, don'tcha know.

And that's what the little one was fed, by hand. Of course, I wore gloves to hold him, sose not to get all scratched by his claws. And oh, how my heart went out to him. He was so cute, so helpless...SO HUNGRY!

Those first weeks, oh my goodness, I was a nervous wreck, hoping so much that he would be strong and healthy and that I was doing all the right things. I did reach out to our local Lake WhaddayathinkImean animal sanctuary (which was overwhelmed at the time and couldn't take him in), who was there with advice whenever I needed it. And, boy was I relieved that they COULDN'T take him in because ol' Maybelle and Bogart, as I called him,

had bonded like Elmer's glue, don'tcha know.

As he grew, we'd spend hours playing together. He loved rolling around on the floor with some rag dolls and different coloured balls. And did he ever love the blackberries, blueberries, and honey that my

good friends Wilma Yuccch, her sweetie Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom, Sybil Beaucannon Hughes, Beanpole Starkman and, of course, Twindle Mumbly brought him. He was surrounded by people who loved him and who all began to realize there was something very different about Bogart.

Now, we all knew that black bears are at the top of the animal intelligence scale. Why in Africa and parts of Asia, the great apes are considered to be the most intelligent after humans, but in the rest of the world, it's bears. That's right. Scientists have begun to discover that they are capable of cognitive abilities and are sentient creatures that feel emotions the same way we do. And guess what? It didn't surprise us when we'd see Bogart watch television, really WATCH it right beside me ... and how he tipped over the cookie jar so he could form a heart with the cookies for me for Mother's Day. Or when he got older, how he learned to use the computer and send his big crush, Lindsay Lohan (remember Lindsay Lohan?) some emails.

How perfect was it that Officer McB, who was an avid inventor of breakthrough technology, and wanted to find out just how intelligent Bogart was ... designed the McBottom Thought-voice Synthesizer Tam o shanter Cap that, when placed on Bogart's head, could enable us to hear what he was think-

see page 17

Maybelle's



Fireside stories

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A human in the shape of a bear

from page 16

ing. Why, if he didn't prove to be a genius, don'tcha know. Bogart could recite Einstein's theory of relativity, Shakespeare's sonnets, all 160 of them, plus play every part in Romeo and Juliet. But what truly made Bogart a wonder bear, is the love he felt for all of us, plus the forest creatures and his cousins.

Oh, I knew that it was only right that he be released into the wild, but after every attempt, he always came waddling back. Bogart was a bear all right, but he was more like a big loving and loveable human – smart as all get out – born into the body of a bear.

Did I mention that we play chess together every night? And he BEATS me nine times out of 10? I think the 10th time he just lets me win. That's because of his big, sweet heart, don'tcha know.

So, that's my story and I'm stickin' to it. Bogart came into my life 16 years ago this coming August and I couldn't be happier for it!

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden. Jerelyn's books, "Vessie Flamingo Outshining the Moon," and "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You" are available at amazon.com

Rotary to run beef-on-a-bun drive thru

Although Haliburton's Rotary Carnival isn't happening this year, the club doesn't want anyone to miss out on their popular fundraiser, beef on a bun. This year, they will be providing the summer favourite as a drive thru on Wednesday, Aug. 5 from 5 to 8 p.m., or whenever they're sold out.

At the end of the evening, the club will be announcing the winner of the car draw, at 10 p.m.

To make sure you get your beef on a bun, make your way to the Rotary Beach parking lot, which is beside the tennis courts on Park Street in Haliburton. You'll need to

have a debit or credit card with a tap option, or bring the exact amount in cash – this will allow volunteers to comply with COVID-19 safety protocols.

Beef on a bun and a pop is \$10. Money raised through the fundraiser goes to community initiatives. The club hopes the community will support this endeavour, which will help the club raise the money that was lost due to event cancellations.

Staff

Heat Bank, Haliburton Rotary Club receive community support funding

Tens of thousands of dollars have been directed into the Haliburton County community through the Emergency Community Support Fund, administered through the United Way, with several grant recipients announced July 21.

Newly announced recipients include The Rotary Club of Haliburton, which received \$5,000 for basic needs bags; Kawartha North Family Health Team, which received \$18,450 for an anti-poverty initiative for Haliburton County; and the Central Food Network, which received \$10,000 for Heat Bank Haliburton County.

Previous recipients include Point in Time, Haliburton Highlands Health Services and SIRCH Community Services.

The funding is specifically for charities or other com-

munity service organizations that provide services to vulnerable Canadians during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funding has also been provided to Easter Seals Ontario, Kawartha Haliburton Victim Services, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton.

"The impact of this investment is threefold," said Penny Barton Dyke, executive director of United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes. "Organizations in our area will be able to help people, especially citizens at risk, with some supports more rapidly; assist in connecting people to agencies that will help them now and going forward; and lastly help strengthen the capacity of our community by working collaboratively."

Staff

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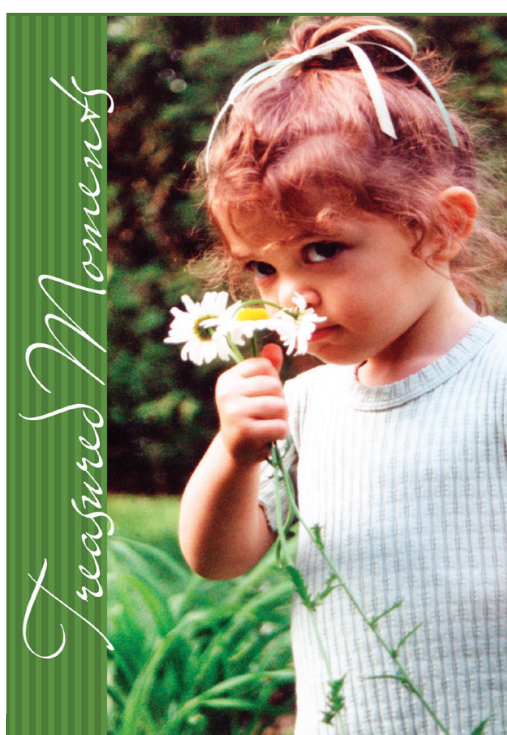
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In Loving Memory of

Helen Katherine Benstead

Sept. 09, 1925 - Jul. 19, 2020

Time caught up with Mom on Sunday, July 19, just before the storm came through. She died in peace.

The middle child of three girls, she was predeceased by sister Norma and brother-in-law Gordon Mack and sister Dorothy Comrie.

She was a proud RN, graduate of Toronto Western Hospital., class of 47.

Beloved wife of Ken for over 69 years until his death last August. Mother of Jenifer (Olaf Lindow), Jeff(sadly predeceased 1982) and Greg(Marilyn Stafford) and loving grandmother of Liam Benstead. Keen follower of the Lindow clan, Scott (Angela) and their children and Kirk(Samantha) and their children. Also survived by brother-in-law and steadfast friend Ian Comrie, the Comrie, Mack and McCann cousins, their partners, children and grandchildren.

It was Helen's wish there be no funeral or memorial service. In keeping with her spirit raise a glass of wine, be kind to the "kiddies" and the "old people" and those having hard times and plant something!

Thank you forever to the wonderful people who staff Hyland Crest. Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) or your local food bank would please Helen and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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Inside THIS WEEK



County Life...

Discover the challenges of the Silent Lake mountain bike trails

Is it a bird?

No, it's the hummingbird moth mystery solved

page 14

Summer fun...

From lake regattas to horseshoe days, The Echo was there

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How big, how busy should we get?

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

A quest for balance seemed to be one of the underlying concerns of the participants in Wednesday's strategic planning forum.

"I know we need growth but I'm worried about Haliburton becoming Muskoka," said Marion Magee, a Kashagawigamog cottager for 36 years.

Already this summer there have been numerous traffic jams in downtown Haliburton and "if we keep on concentrating on more marketing, what will our town be like?"

"I just worry we're pushing for more, more, more. A small town can't have everything. I still want the quiet part of Haliburton. Sometimes this summer it's quieter in the city than it is at the cottage."

Ted and Glenna Koehler of Wren Lake agreed. As cottagers who want to retire here, they want to be able to pursue their interests of canoeing, hiking and skiing. "We're hoping our trails will still be here" after the push for more growth and development.

These pursuits may not seem to bring as much money into the Highlands as snowmobiling, but they are important and meaningful to the economy, the Koehlers said.

See **Balancing** page 4

LIFE'S A WHIRL: Four-year-old Bradley Burch-Timmons, who was in Haliburton visiting his grandparents, Doug and Lorna Burch, takes a spin on one of the Haliburton Rotary Carnival midway attractions. There are more carnival pictures on pages 3, 11, 18 and 19.

Unwelcome visitors: Bears dine at local cottages

DIANA ZLOMISLIC

Staff Reporter

In his 43 years cottaging at Clee's On The Rocks, Cliff Moore always suspected he had visitors in the night.

But it took an overturned 250 pound storage box to provide the proof.

Sometime between 2 and 6 a.m. Thursday morning, a black bear had sniffed its way onto Moore's property and into the

locked, wooden storage box where the Lake Kashagawigamog cottager keeps his garbage in plastic trash cans.

Even though all of the garbage was disposed of in individual

grocery bags before being tossed into the plastic bins, the bear's hunger radar was strong enough to detect the waft of empty salmon tins buried in the heap.

See **Scant** page 16

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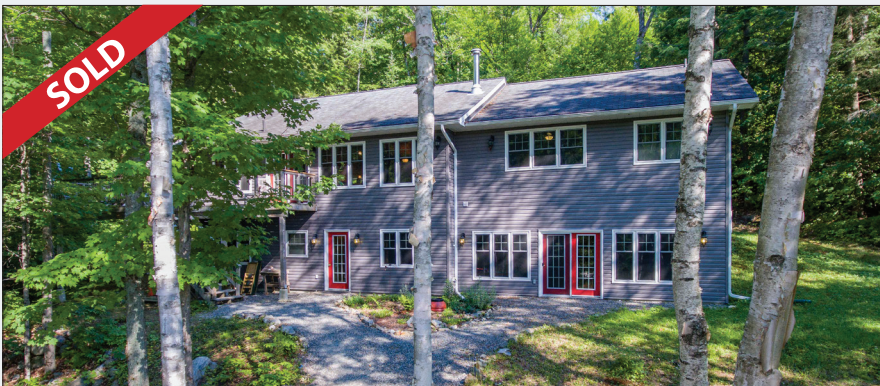
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Redstone Lake

Quality-built, 4-bdrm, 3 bath cottage. This level 1.2-acre property is perfect for all ages to enjoy. It sits in a quiet bay w/ sand and rocks shoreline. 185 feet of frontage and beautiful western sunset views. Spacious, open-concept living, cathedral ceilings, and hardwood flooring. Bright kitchen. Large dining room and screened-in porch. Master bedroom with ensuite overlooks the lake. Finished lower level. Move in and start to enjoy your summer!

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Otter Lake

Privately situated on 67+ acres sits your dream custom built waterfront home or cottage. 4 bdrm, 3 bath home finished w/ high-end finishing's. 462ft of frontage. Cherry cabinetry, granite countertops, large island and oak flooring throughout. Main floor master w/ 5pc ensuite. Lovely living room w/ grand cathedral ceilings & granite fireplace. Full finished lower level. Excellent property for children and pets to run and enjoy nature.

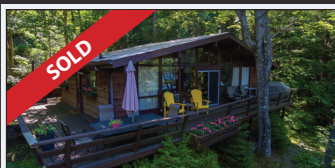
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WENONA LAKE \$662,000



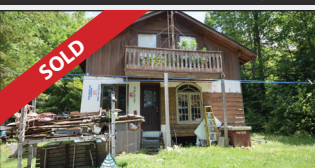
Looking for a quiet, calm and peaceful four season cottage or waterfront home? Look no further. This 3 BR, 3 bath immaculate cottage sits on a private lot. Large open concept living, excellent for hosting family gatherings. 125ft of frtg with stunning western views.

LITTLE KENNISIS LAKE \$639,000



The perfect four-season cottage! 4-bdrm, 1 bath cottage. This well treed lot and 161 +/- ft of frontage provide ample privacy. Situated on a quiet part of the lake. Large lakefront deck. Floor to ceiling windows in the living room and woodstove. Sitting deck at the water's edge is a bonus. When you walk on the deck you really feel you are immersed in the woods and truly at the cottage.

KENNISIS LAKE \$569,000



It's all about the lot!! Enjoy the gorgeous sunsets from this west facing level lot. Amazing rock shoreline, deep water entry is great for the avid swimmers. 125 ft frontage and year round road. Looking for a fixer upper this one is for you! 3 bdrms 2 with balconies.

NEGAUNEE LAKE \$529,000



This 3-bdrm, 1 bath cottage plus neighboring vacant waterfront lot are being sold TOGETHER. With a combined total frontage of 306 ft. Double detached insulated garage with studio loft. Level to sloping yard. Bright open concept living Stunning lake views. Bunkie located on the additional vacant waterfront lot. Negaunee is a no motor lake. This package won't last long.

LONG LAKE \$445,000



Choose to build your dream cottage on this stunning property overlooking Long Lake or renovate the existing building which includes 2 BR and 1 full bath. Extensive 650' of water frontage. Private seasonal access and beautifully wooded 54 +/- acres provides ample privacy.

MONROCK LAKE \$335,000



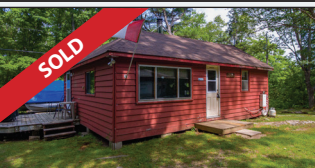
It's all about the lot! 101 ft of frontage. Gorgeous western views, level to sloping land. Traditional 3-bdrm, 1 bath seasonal cottage being sold "as is." Choose to build your dream cottage on this stunning property or renovate the existing building. Additional storage shed, bunkie and sauna.

LITTLE HAWK LAKE RD \$294,900



What a perfect place to escape. Situated on a 2.54 acre lot with great privacy. 2 bdrm, 1 bath. Large windows. Character and charm are a theme throughout, from the barn board accent walls, to the white washed ceilings throughout, to the now-decorative old stone fireplace. Located within walking distance to Elvin Johnson Park, close to beaches, boat launches and more.

DEEP BAY ROAD \$179,000



The perfect cabin in the woods! Cozy 2-bdrm seasonal cottage. 6.13 acres. Open concept living space. Beautifully wooded grounds, backs onto thousands of acres of crown land, Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands Provincial Park. Easily accessed year-round from paved municipally maintained road. Stunning views of Gull Lake from scenic lookout located at the top of the property.

MISKWABI LAKE \$129,000



Seasonal 2 bdrms, 1 bath cottage. Open concept living. Porch to enjoy bug-free living. Super project for the handyman some finishing needs to be done. Drilled well with a heated water line and septic. Located a stone's throw away (across the road) is your 1/9th interest (ownership) in lot 19 waterfront lot with sand shoreline. Great fishing and swimming lake.

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West Court Place \$29,000 2.43AC
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